



With just a few short days till Spring 2025 I thought we might just reflect on what Spring means to us as gardeners.

The Spring season is a time of the year when the weather starts to change. It is the season between winter and summer. The days get longer and the nights get shorter, the temperature is milder, and flowers bloom.

There is a warm wind in the spring season in the air!

But you say..."wait a minute" this is not what I am experiencing! The wind is still cold, the ground a bit muddy, certainly not the time to plant much, my



daffodils are just now starting to bloom....what kind of spring is this! And yes, this spring is starting out to be very different from the last few years.

As the Dutch said to me and my husband years ago...."Winter is just late leaving!"

The only things I have in bloom here in Oxford are a few daffodils, forsythia, hellebores, and winter aconite...so I guess we just have to wait and hope that the "real Spring" arrives soon!

A word about this issue of "Garden Basket".....with the change in administration at the State level, District and Clubs, we thought we would devote this issue to saying farewell to Susie Middleton, FGCM President, and Terry Holman, District I Director....as well as introduce the new District I Executive Board, District I Director, Ann Street, and new or returning Club Presidents.

We hope you will find this issue informative, and we will be back soon with more fun, interesting, and educational articles.

Trish Reynolds
Gardenews and Publications Chair

Comments from “Almost Past” District Director – Terry Holman



My term of office is closing. The time has flown by. I have vastly enjoyed serving as your District Director from 2023-2025, a job that was made easy with the incredible officers, advisors, and Club Presidents on our executive board. We have accomplished many great deeds together:

- We successfully planted 130 trees at Cypress Branch and Tuckahoe MD State Parks
 - We joined forces with MD-DNR for the Alice Rush McKeon Native Tree Planting Project
 - Our Garden Clubs worked to create amazing Holiday Trees and Wreaths at the Annapolis Statehouse Holiday Event with new themes each December that represented their respective Counties in gorgeous and inspiring ways.
 - Three Club Standard Flower Shows were held during my term. I was honored to view all of them and judge two-thirds of them.
 1. “Summer Herb Garden” Small Standard Flower Show hosted by Somerset Co. GC in 2023
 2. “Books in Bloom” hosted by Kent Island GC, our First Horticulture Specialty Standard Flower Show in June 2024
 3. “The Wizard of Oz” hosted by Four Seasons GC in October 2024
 - We hosted our 7th District Standard Flower Show “Spirit of America” on October 5, 2024, which included, for the first time, a Youth Division with 74 floral designs and plaques from three different age groups. Six of our nine Garden clubs participated with youth entries. A true triumph! All nine of our garden clubs participated in a big way. With Sponsors and patron donations, our flower show actually netted a \$1500 profit.
 - The seed growing challenge of various Zinnia cultivars and fall bulb sales still continue to raise a considerable amount of income (+\$3k) for Flower Show funding.
 - Our Garden clubs all contribute to their communities promoting NGC objectives with horticultural endeavors of floral designs for garden therapy projects, educating our youth about gardening, decorating historical homes and gardens, maintaining Blue and Gold Star Memorials and planting and maintaining decorative planters and plantings to beautify our communities.
 - Our participation with Wreaths Across America is significant and our Patriotic Programs Chair, Robin Lanham, has performed well at this task. Every December, over five thousand wreaths are laid at each veteran’s gravesite. We continue to raise enough monies with other Delmarva businesses and Veteran organizations to place a wreath at every grave and the District Director has the honor of welcoming Gold Star Families to the Program
 - We have done a great job raising funds for our Standard District Flower Shows and our usage of obtaining sponsors has led to making profits at our Flower Shows, despite that we raise funds through horticulture sales to raise money so host clubs need only chair the show, not fundraise the District Standard Flower Shows we hold each term.
 - District I is full of wonderful, strong, talented people who garden smarter and share their experiences with our communities.
 - We have had 4 incredible General Meetings with incredible programs and fundraisers.
 - I am so proud of District I and our members!
- Best wishes go to the new District I administration for a successful 2025-2027 term!

Director's "Mini Basket" — Ann Street



What an exciting opportunity to be Director of District 1 – how proud I am to represent this district!

The March installation held at The Fountains in Salisbury, MD was a beautiful backdrop

to start the 2025 - 2027 term. Our Program presenter, Julia Clevett, out did herself with her first ever presentation to offer 14 designs. I hope everyone enjoyed the day.

Let's not forget the hard work of our previous Board members. The last two years were very busy, and Terry Holman, the previous Director, accomplished a lot. She is a master at what she has to offer and represented this district with her smiling and caring mannerism.

Now a bit of info about me. I'm an Eastern Shore native who grew up in Delmar, MD. In my adulthood Town & Country Garden Club in Salisbury introduced me to all aspects of gardening and floral design. Having an interest in becoming a Flower Show Judge, I joined a Federated Garden club, Four Seasons Garden Club, and upon moving to Somerset County I joined the Somerset County Garden Club. I fulfilled my ambition to become an accredited flower show judge and am continually learning much about horticulture and design.

Professionally, my nursing and master's in business administration degrees eventually led me to a 20-

year consulting career in Surgical and Anesthesia Services focusing on operational efficiencies.

The theme for this term is "Sustaining Our Future – Growing Seeds with our Youth". What will be the future of our garden clubs if we don't groom our youth to carry forward our goals and missions? We saw the enthusiasm generated at the "Spirit of America" District I Flower Show last October. The elementary school-aged students were thrilled to bring parents, grandparents, and friends to view their designs and botanical art displays at the show. The participation was outstanding! Helping each club sustain a strong relationship with a youth group is vital.



A project that merits pursuing is the TREX recycling program. If we take on this program, District I will have the opportunity to place a bench in a desired location once we have collected 1000 lbs of recyclable plastic within a 12-month period.

If you attended the District Annual Meeting you may recall the story about Miss Rumphius who fulfilled her goal of creating beauty. It is my hope that all clubs will continually make the world a more beautiful place through our presence in the community, sharing our talents and proactively saving our environment.

And Now a Word from Susie Middleton, President FGCM



At the District Annual Meeting FGCM State President addressed the group thanking District I for all the support we have given her over these past two years. As we all know, Susie has been an incredible FGCM President, leading us with her enthusiasm, imagination, energy and great passion for her Theme....*"Sustaining Mother Earth....One Action at a Time."*

Susie then went on to lay some important dates for FGCM and our clubs. Foremost on her mind is the upcoming FGCM Annual Meeting at Turf Valley on March 25, 2005.....this will be Susie's "swan song" as she passes the gavel on to Donna Miller, incoming FGCM President!



National Garden Club
president, Brenda Moore

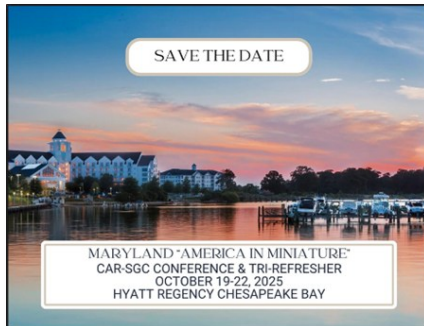
Special Guest at our Turf Valley program will be NGC President Brenda Moore, who is also an author of children's books.



Next on Susie's mind was the upcoming Earth Day Program sponsored by FGCMMD scheduled for April 24th, from 8am to 12 noon at the Vollmer Center at Cylburn Arboretum. A great group of speakers is lined up for this event, so please join us and support this event.



And finally, in case we were worried about what Susie will be doing next....have no fear...Susie is Chairman of the CAR-SGC Conference and Tri-Refresher, Oct. 19-22, 2025 at the Hyatt Regency



2025 CAR-SGC Speakers	
Kathy Jentz Publisher Washington Gardener	Low-Resource Landscaping, Managing Water with Plants
High Tide in Dorchester	The Impact of Climate Change
Neal Sanders Garden Club Mystery Writer	"Gardening is Murder"
Mike Burch, Potomac Florist	Design ProgramC
Kirk Brown	New Growing Trends for Future
Jim Sutton	The Hows and Wows of Longwood Gardens
Sylvan Kaufman	Layers of the Forest

Chesapeake Bay, in Cambridge, right in the heart of District I! So mark your calendars now and plan to attend...it will be fantastic!



District News

Let's meet our New Executive Board for District I, 2025-27

Ann Street, District I Director (Four Seasons GC & Somerset GC)

Linda Elias, Asst. Director (Kent Island GC)

Bob Howatt, Treasurer (Four Seasons GC)

Ellen Rice, Recording Secretary (Kent Island GC)

Marilyn Reedy, Corresponding Secretary (Oxford GC)

Club News

Chestertown Garden Club — Secethia Boardley-Davis

"If you truly love nature you will find beauty everywhere." This quote written by Vincent Van Gough a long time ago speaks to me today because nature is at the center of my life.

I am Secethia Boardley-Davis, the 48th President of The Chestertown Garden Club. My passion is instilling a love of nature in the very young. I have been an early childhood specialist for over 50 years. As such, I began an environmental education program that included a comprehensive garden education program for children infant through kindergarten.



I am on the Board Of Friends Of Eastern Neck, Kent County Master Gardener, Certified Pollinator Steward for Pollinator Partnership Canada, Chair Water/Habitat Sub Committee for Chestertown Environmental Committee.

All things, garden and nature are my love.

As the President of the Chestertown Garden Club, my vision for the members is to see ourselves as a community garden and work together to weed, water, plant, and watch our gardens continued growth. I want to encourage members to participate in events and activities and, of course, to have fun as we get to know each other again. I

Dorchester Garden Club — Sandy Lucas

My name is Sandy Lucas and I am the new President of the Dorchester Garden Club for 2025-2027. I am really excited to begin this new journey! In my former life, I was a school counselor for almost 38 years, working with students of all ages... preschool through 12th grade. When I finally decided to retire, the first thing I said I wanted to do was to join the Garden Club. My mother was a lover of flowers and always had flower gardens.



The two main objectives for my two-year term are to increase the number of members who exhibit floral designs in our Mini Flower Shows and take away the anxiety of being a Mini Flower Show judge. Our club has Mini Flower Shows at almost

all of our monthly meetings. (We meet 10 times a year). A survey was distributed in October and an overwhelming majority of the members said they wanted/needed to be educated on how to do the NGC floral designs and how to be a Mini Flower Show judge. Our list of programs this year includes several sessions with teachers demonstrating step-by-step instructions on how to do different NGC floral designs. Members can also follow along and make the design as the teacher instructs. The club is providing the container, mechanics, and the flowers. We are offering a “Flower Camp” (workshop) titled “Judging 101: It’s Fundamental taught by our own talented Susie Middleton. This will be a shortened version of the Flower Show School that will help us with the judging of our monthly Mini Flower Shows.

Another goal is to make sure our members have FUN while learning !!

Four Season Garden Club – Frances Follmer

Who Am I?

I am a wife, mother, grandmother, friend, retired schoolteacher, garden club member, and flower show judge. I initially joined the Somerset County Garden Club in 2009 and the Four Seasons Garden Club in 2011.

I have held every office in the Somerset County Club except for the Treasurer. With Bozy’s help, I was instrumental in getting a Blue Star Marker

placed at the Visitor’s Center in Princess Anne, MD, and worked with the committee to get the Gold Star Marker for Crisfield, MD. After holding various offices with the Four Seasons Garden Club, I will become president in April. At the



District level, I have been the Corresponding Secretary, Fund Raising Chair, Program Co-Chair, and will be Fund Raising Co-Chair, again. With the encouragement of my friend, Dottie Howatt, I became a Flower Show Judge and have written flower show schedules and chaired multiple shows. I am a huge cheerleader for flower shows!

With an aging membership, one of the goals for the next two years, is to increase membership by making Four Seasons Garden Club more visible in the community by posting articles in the local newspapers, participating in local events, scheduling at least two evening meetings so those

persons working could attend seeking to attract younger members, tapping into the Master Gardeners, and offering a little welcome gift to newcomers to the Salisbury area promoting the Four Seasons Garden Club.

Another goal is getting our garden club more involved with children regularly by reaching out to afterschool programs. This is near and dear to my heart as I was a retired elementary school teacher.

The last goal I will relate here is to continue the custom of having a Flower Show every two years with full participation. It may be a Small Standard Show, but hopefully there will be a Flower Show in 2026.

Kent Island Garden Club — Bobbie Bell

I moved to the Eastern Shore's Prospect Bay Country Club in 1993 and to Kent Island in 2019. Linda Elias and I had been neighbors and worked on PBCC's Landscape Enhancement Committee for 3 years. Although I had been president of the Garden Club there, when I moved to Kent Island I became a member of KIGC in 2019.

I have been a Certified Fitness Instructor for 40 years and still lead 2 classes a week. I volunteer at a food pantry and for 20 years directed FEED A FAMILY, a community food program that provides holiday food boxes for folks in Queen Anne's County. In 2024 we provided boxes for close to 900 families.

Last term of being President, my goal was to grow the club with new members. My goal was 5 yet ended with 8! It would be terrific if we could match those numbers in 2025!

This term, I encourage new members to understand, and experienced members to rejuvenate, their enthusiasm for our club's distinctive learning, creative, appreciation, and support opportunities.



Oxford Garden Club —mMelinda Huston



Hello! My name is Melinda Huston, and this is my second year as president of the Oxford Garden Club. A little bit about me. I was born and raised in Greenville, Mississippi. I eventually found my way to the DC area where I have been for 30-something years. Now retired, I am living happily on a 'farm' in St.

Michaels with my husband, Mike, surrounded by Bay-Wise gardens, a 'pocket prairie', serene woods, and a dozen beehives on a quiet creek. Heaven!

One of the highlights has been working with leaders of other clubs – partnering on signature projects, promoting and attending events, getting lots of ideas, and even more inspiration. This is something we want to continue.

Last year we celebrated our 20th anniversary and reaffirmed our commitment to what we stand for and do. Check us out at our NEW website www.oxfordgardenclub.org. Check it often. For instance, you don't want to miss the CEO of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Hilary Falk, *May 6 at 3 pm – location Oxford Community Center.*

This year, we are future-focused, building the next generation of leaders, and strengthening our commitment to sustainability, conservation, and restoration. We are very proud of our newest garden – the Community Garden made possible by ‘Sustaining Maryland.’ In its first year, bushels of fresh produce were delivered to the Easton Neighborhood Service Center. And we also grow gorgeous flowers along with the vegetables. These are not only for pollinators but also for the floral designs we share with the community,

Beauty meets sustainability, making both even more meaningful and memorable.

We have a new Vice President this year – Sandy Wrightson! Yes, THE 2025 Perennial Bloom award winner, designer, organizer, mentor, and one of our founders is stepping up as VP! She is

focusing on the future of OGC, bringing up a new generation of leaders, sharpening our mission, and fulfilling our commitments.

Our ‘retiring’ Vice President, Jane Seldon, is stepping up to lead the big deal of our year – the return of the **semi-annual Secret Garden Tour of Oxford, Saturday May 17, 2025.** You will visit six gardens never before opened to the public. It’s a ‘double-header’ in Oxford as May 17 is also the famed Oxford Fine Arts Fair, where our talented and award-winning designers create beautiful arrangements that complement the artwork.

My theme is *From Our Gardens to Yours*. We share our expertise as gardeners (master and beginner), Bay- Wise consultants for sustainable gardening, horticulturists, and naturalists. And we sometimes share our plants!!

Queen Anne’s County Garden Club -- Robin Lanham

Who am I? I am a native Marylander born in Baltimore City. I have lived throughout the state: Carroll, Allegheny, Prince Georges, Anne Arundel, and now Queen Anne’s Counties. I graduated from Laurel High School and the University of Maryland with a Degree in Business Management and Economics.

I worked for US Navy Intelligence for 40 years as a Civilian Employee, holding numerous positions and received the Cold War Medal, 4 Navy and Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Citations U.S. Navy Space Certification, U. S. Navy Sustained Superior Performance Award and Intelligence Community Officer certification. I retired as an Office Director on the Admiral’s Staff.

Upon retirement, I had always wanted to garden but never had the time, so I became an Anne Arundel County Master Gardener and began my journey to learn about gardening and protecting the environment.

I moved to Chester in 2018 and joined the QACGC holding positions in Patriotic Programs (for club and District), Awards Chair, 1st and 2nd VP. Holding the District position helped me to be prepared to be president. I strongly encourage everyone to attend District meetings, as they are highly informative and provide an opportunity to meet

the individuals from across the district.

My goal for the Club is to branch out.

Most of the club’s activities and projects are in the county

seat of Centreville; while maintaining our presence there, I would like to expand our reach throughout the county and to increase membership and mentoring of new members.

We could accomplish this by partnering with like-minded organizations to provide demonstrations and education at Seniors Centers, Community Centers and home school centers. We have many talented designers and presenters in the club and would like to share these talents with the larger QAC community. There are now numerous grants available to fund new and one-and-done projects.

In Addition to the QACGC, I am a member of Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center, Adkins Arboretum, Kent Island Heritage Society, Queen Anne’s at Home, Queen Anne’s County Character, and Kent Island Giving Circle.



Talbot County Garden Club — Eleanor Denegre



May I introduce myself to you.....I am Eleanor Denegre, incoming President of Talbot County Garden Club (July 2025 to June 2027). I moved to Oxford, MD in 2017 after visiting the Eastern Shore for more than 10 years. I grew up

in Alexandria VA where I attended St. Agnes School for Girls and graduated from Hollins College with a BA in Art History and Theater. My studies were enriched by 2 years on Hollins Abroad in Paris. I enjoyed a 32-year career with The National Endowment for the Arts as a Theater Specialist working with theater companies nationwide.

Life in Oxford is never dull with the companionship of my two dogs: Ruffin, a large red-tri-Aussie and Tilly, a tri-roan English Cocker Spaniel. I teach Chair Yoga and Meditation 3 days a week at the retirement community Londonderry.

I have been a member of TCGC since 2018. In 2022, I chaired the TCGC Pilgrimage House and Garden Tour for Talbot County and currently serve on the Board of the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage.

As incoming President of TCGC, I will continue to support the Club's goals of enriching our environment's natural beauty through education, flower arranging, maintaining civic projects, and encouraging conservation. This year's Native Plant sale and design workshops for physically challenged communities at the YMCA support my desire for continued community outreach and initiatives to conserve natural resources.

A recent visit to the Chelsea Garden Show illustrated the healing benefits of garden designs that offer solace and peace to community members who lack green spaces. Food inequity and health could be addressed through education to economically challenged communities about growing food and creating vegetable plots. Contribution to a local Food Bank would be an ideal outcome as demonstrated by many garden clubs across the country. I hope that TCGC will contribute through our activities and programs to enrich our community through further outreach.

Finally, in 2026, TCGC will host the District 1 Flower Show and the Pilgrimage House and Garden Tour that will celebrate "America 250" and Talbot County's rich colonial history with both of these activities requiring all hands on deck!

Worcester County Garden Club — Susan Fletcher

Hi....I am Susan Fletcher, newly installed President of the Worcester County Garden Club. I retired to the Eastern Shore following a career as a Sr. Director of Human Resources with global responsibilities for Fortune 500 Companies, and a retirement from British Petroleum. I live in the Ocean Pines Community, and I have one son who lives with his family in Germany. I joined the Garden Club 7 years ago.

Worcester County GC Goals and Objectives - 2025-26

1. Build Membership– the number one goal for our Worster County Garden Club is to increase membership. Our club's attrition is due largely to the number moving out of our area. This movement has resulted in approximately a 25%-member reduction during the last few years. We plan to achieve this goal using several approaches throughout the year to include the following activities:



- Membership Monday Open House May 12th
 - Host a table at the Ocean Pines and Berlin Libraries – for member sign-ups.
2. Veterans Affairs
 - Replace Blue Star Marker – the Blue Star Marker installed 19 years ago at the Ocean Pines Veterans Memorial Park is worn and chipped. A rededication ceremony will be held.
 - Gold Star Marker – plans are beginning for 2026 installation.
 - Ocean Pines Memorial Day and Veterans Day Observance – Create a patriotic wreath for placement at Blue Star Marker and speak on behalf of the Worcester County Garden Club.
 - Wreaths Across America – secure wreath donations and participate in placing wreaths at Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery.
 3. Historic Preservation
 - Decorate historic St. Martins Church
 - Decorate State Capital Holiday Tree
 4. Community Outreach
 - Ruth Bowie Butterfly Garden -maintain and enhance the Butterfly Garden experience at Snow Hill Elementary.
 - Snow Hill Food Bank – assist in the plant/flower beautification.
 - Maryland Coastal Bay Project - participate in the Coastal Bay Day at Ocean Pines, May 18.
 - Annual Award Scholarship – to High School Student majoring in agriculture, horticulture, botany or environmental field
 5. Garden Therapy
 - Coordinate Floral Workshops - for Seniors at Gulf Creek Senior Living Center.
 - During each Business Meeting -Present and share information about new practices and tips for plants and seed planting.

Awards Presented at the FGCMD District I Annual Meeting (3-5-2025)

NGC Anniversary Certificates

Dorchester Garden Club 95 Years

Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs - Awards

Somerset County Garden Club NGC Small Standard Flower Show Schedule Award

Overall winner (\$50.00) (Large Club)

Four Seasons Garden Club Yearbook Award: 20-29 members

FGCMD, Inc. Awards:

Community Service Award

Oxford Garden Club	“Plant America Garden”	Medium	1 st Place
Queen Anne’s County GC	“Tub Planting”	Large	2 nd Place
Dorchester GC	“Ivy League of DGC, WWII Memorial, Dorchester Courthouse”	Large	3 rd Place

Historic Preservation Award

Kent Island Garden Club	“Kirwan House Gardens”	Medium	HM
Reconstruction to Butterfly Gardens			

Garden Therapy Award

Talbot County Garden Club	“Inclusive Gardening”	Large	HM
Queen Annes County GC	“Miniature Holiday Arrangements”	Large	HM

Garden Food Bank Award

Oxford Garden Club	"Neighborhood Service Center Garden"	Medium	2 nd Place
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Publication Award - Newsletter

Talbot County Garden Club	"Blossom & Bloom"	Large	3 rd Place
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Publication Award - Education

Talbot County Garden Club	"Can You Dig It?"	Large	2 nd Place
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Photography Awards

Annette Richter Photography Award -			
Nancy Boyce	Oxford GC	"Monarda Fistulosa"	HM
District Directors Photography Award -			
Nancy Boyce	Oxford GC	"Little Bee Eater"	HM
Ingrid Blanton	Oxford GC	"Carpenter Bee"	HM
Harry C. Reynolds Photography Award -			
Nancy Boyce	Oxford G.C.	"Various, Mostly Oaks"	2 nd Place
Bob Howatt	Four Seasons GC	"Bald Cypress"	HM
Mary F. Fitzpatrick Photography Award			
Ann Street	Four Seasons GC	"Creative Line Mass"	1 st Place
Ingrid Blanton	Oxford GC	"Mass Design"	3 rd Place

Flower Show Evaluation Certificate of Recognition

Kent Island Garden Club	"Books in Bloom" an NGC Horticulture Specialty Show.	06/13/2024
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Flower Show Evaluation Certificate of Merit

District I, FGCM	"Spirit of America"	
An NGC Patriotic Standard Flower Show"		10/05/2024
Four Seasons Garden Club	"The Wizard of Oz"	
An NGC Standard Flower Show		10/16/2024

Perennial Bloom Award

Sandy Wrightson, Oxford Garden Club

Yearbook Awards

Oxford Garden Club	Medium Size Club	2 nd Place Tie
Four Seasons Garden Club	Medium Size Club	3 rd Place Tie
Kent Island Garden Club	Medium Size Club	HM
Worcester Garden Club	Medium Size Club	HM
Dorchester Garden Club	Large Size Club	2 nd Place
Chestertown Garden Club	Large Size Club	3 rd Place Tie
Talbot Garden Club	Large Size Club	HM

Youth Contests**Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl – Theme "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires," "Lend a Hand Care for the Land"**

Chestertown GC	Six (6) Youth Awards
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Grade 4	Chestertown GC sponsoring Benjamin Boumiea	HH Garnet Elementary School, Chestertown, MD	2 nd Place
Grade 4	Chestertown GC sponsoring Julianne Pestano	HH Garnet Elementary School, Chestertown, MD	HM
Grade 4	Chestertown GC sponsoring Tavia Johnson	HH Garnet Elementary School, Chestertown, MD	HM
Grade 4	Chestertown GC sponsoring Arianna McGinnis	HH Garnet Elementary School, Chestertown, MD	HM

Grade 4 Chestertown GC sponsoring Zaniy Dobson

HH Garnet Elementary School,
Chestertown, MD HM

Grade 4 Chestertown GC sponsoring Brooklyn Rose

HH Garnet Elementary School,
Chestertown, MD HM

DISTRICT I AWARDS:

Marguerite Willey Club Award – Queen Anne’s County Garden Club



*Terry Holman, Dist I Director
presenting Laura Blaylock,
President QACGC, the
Marguerite Willey
Club Award*

This perpetual silver bowl may be presented to the Garden Club which has best served the district in promoting one of the State or National objectives of the FGCMd, Inc. It is to be known as the Marguerite Willey Award and should, in the interest of sentiment, be used as a container for an arrangement of daffodils and be placed in an appropriate area of the District I Annual Meeting. This serves as a reminder of the person's qualities being commemorated.

Marguerite Willey was President of Somerset County Garden Club from 1969-1970. Her special interest was daffodils. It is the duty of the club currently holding this silver bowl to polish it and create an arrangement of daffodils to the next club winner at the District I Annual Meeting.

District Director Awards:

Alice Rush McKeon Native Tree Planting Awards:

Alice Rush McKeon Appreciation Award – Jessica Conley, MD -DNR Plaque

Alice Rush McKeon Appreciation Award – Haley Rhodes – Above and Beyond Award

“You’re a Star” Medal Awards: Native Tree Planters at Cypress Branch State Park Oct 22, 2024

Diana Bonner – Kent Island Garden Club

Linda Elias – Kent Island Garden Club

MichelleMacTavish – Oxford Garden Club

Reenie Rice – Oxford Garden Club

Earl Segal – Oxford Garden Club

Glenda Clarke – Worcester Co. Garden Club – Fundraising Co-Chair

Jackie Davies – Worcester Co. Garden Club – Fundraising Co-Chair

Ellen Higgins – Dorchester Garden Club - Historian

Frances Follmer – Four Seasons and Somerset Co. Garden Club – Programs Co-Chair

Judy Slaughter – Dorchester Garden Club – Programs Co-Chair

“You’re a Star” District I Medal Awards: (4) For Special Recognition of District Board Functions:

Gretta MacDonald – Talbot County Garden Club – Youth Chair, for exemplary work in connecting with District I Garden Clubs Youth and coordinating 74 Youth Entries for our first inclusion of Youth Division for our District Standard Flower Show, “Spirit of America”

Ann Street – Four Seasons Garden Club and Somerset Garden Club – For exemplary work in chairing the “Spirit of America” District I Patriotic Standard Flower Show.

Pat Jessup – Oxford Garden Club – For serving as Treasurer and stepping up to be District Awards Co-Chair

Trish Reynolds – Talbot County Garden Club and Oxford Garden Club – For serving as District Advisor, *Garden Basket* District Editor / *Gardenews* FGCMd Editor and District Awards Co-Chair

The Last Word

We hope you have enjoyed this issue of District I's newsletter and getting acquainted with the new leaders of District I.

We also want to end with congratulations and good wishes to Susie and Terry for a JOB **WELL DONE!**
And finally, a big thank-you to all the District I 2023-25 Board members and Club Presidents for their
outstanding achievements over these past two years....much success in your next endeavors, and
HAPPY GARDENING!

Trish Reynolds,
District I *Gardenews* and Publications Chair

Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland
____Member of____
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc.
Federated Garden Clubs of MD, Inc.
District I